

Message Text

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R 012325Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO DOD WASHDC

DMATC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065428

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, MILI, CG

SUBJECT: GEODETIC SATELLITE PROGRAM

REF: KINSHASA 939

1. REFTEL REPORTED INSTITUT GEOGRAPHIQUE DU ZAIRE (IGZ) REQUEST TO ESTABLISH FOUR ADDITIONAL GEODETIC POINTS IN ZAIRE, AND REQUESTED APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE FOR DMATC TEAM.

2. DMA CANNOT CONSIDER COMMITMENT OF DOPPLER GEODETIC SATELLITE INSTRUMENTATION FOR ADDITIONAL STATION POSITIONING IN ZAIRE UNTIL ALL STATIONS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED BY GOZ ARE POSITIONED. TO DATE ONLY THREE OF FOUR STATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE BY THE DMATC TEAM TO COMPLETE THE FOURTH STATION IN JUNE 1974. AFTER JUNE THE DMATC TEAM AND INSTRUMENTATION ARE SCHEDULED FOR RETURN TO CONUS WITH INSTRUMENTATION TO BE DEPLOYED ON ANOTHER DMA PRIORITY PROJECT. A DMATC TEAM AND INSTRUMENTATION WILL REDEPLOY TO ZAIRE IN LATE AUGUST 1974 TO

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MENTATION WILL REDEPLOY TO ZAIRE IN LATE AUGUST 1974 TO

CONTINUE DOD SATELLITE TRACKING PROGRAM.

3. PROGRESS FOR STATION POSITIONING WITHIN ZAIRE BY DMATC TEAM, WHEN NOT INVOLVED IN DOD TRACKING PROGRAM, HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLY SLOWER THAN WAS EXPECTED. PROGRESS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY ENHANCED BY AN INCREASE IN LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION SUPPORT FROM IGZ TO ENSURE MAXIMUM EFFECTIVE USE OF OBSERVING TIME BETWEEN DOD TRACKING PROGRAMS.

4. ONCE THE DMATC TEAM REDEPLOYS TO ZAIRE IN AUGUST 1974, DMA WOULD BE PLEASED TO CONSIDER AN IGZ PLAN FOR THE ADDITIONAL STATION POSITIONING. BASED ON THE SCHEDULE FOR THE DOD SATELLITE TRACKING PROGRAM IN ZAIRE AND OTHER KNOWN DMA REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTRUMENTATION, DMA RECOMMENDS THE PLAN PROVIDE FOR COMPLETION OF THE FOUR STATIONS IN THE TIME FRAME JUNE-AUGUST 1975 OR JUNE-AUGUST 1976.

5. FYI. THE PRESENT REQUIREMENT FOR MAINTAINING A SATELLITE TRACKING STATION AT KINSHASA, ZAIRE, EXTENDS THROUGH 1978. PERIODS FOR THE DOD SATELLITE PROGRAM WILL BE MARCH THROUGH MAY AND SEPTEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER 1974. THEREAFTER, OBSERVING PERIODS WILL BE FEBRUARY THROUGH APRIL AND SEPTEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER ANNUALLY. THE DMA IS INTERESTED IN MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH GOZ TO ENSURE CONTINUING ENTRY/REENTRY OF PEOPLE AND INSTRUMENTATION TO MAN THE OBSERVING STATION. ADDITIONALLY, DMA IS WILLING TO RESPOND TO THE REQUESTS OF IGZ. HOWEVER, CRITICAL INSTRUMENTATION CANNOT BE PROVIDED IN SUPPORT OF IGZ UNTIL A MORE EFFICIENT USE IS MADE OF PEOPLE, INSTRUMENTATION AND OBSERVING TIME. SPECIFICALLY, THE DIRECTOR, IGZ, SHOULD BE MADE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF PROVIDING EFFECTIVE LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR FIELD OPERATIONS AND THE IMPORTANCE OF WORKING WITHIN A SET TIME TABLE. END FYI.

6. PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY ADVERSE IMPACT TO CONTINUED KINSHASA OPERATIONS WHICH MAY RESULT FROM DEFERRAL OF GOZ REQUEST. RUSH

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